(*b*) (1) 2·20 chains.
(2) 36 chains roughly.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) A complaint to that effect was received. It has been found on enquiry to be baseless.

(*e*) Government cannot interfere, as the *chal* is private.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* May I know what is the extent of paddy fields that is being irrigated by this tank?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I want notice.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* Can I take it that it is sufficiently large?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I cannot say.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur):* In case it is sufficiently large, has the Government any objection to acquire this *chal* and make use of it for irrigation purposes? It will be only a small area.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* It is a private *chal.* Can we introduce a system of taking up all private *chals* by the Government?

Mr. M. K. Devasy *(Adur):* My point is this. If the paddy fields are sufficiently extensive and if this tank will serve the purpose of irrigating those fields, is it not better that we acquire such a small area covering the *chal*?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I have not got all the details. Anyway, I shall investigate into the question and see whether your suggestions can be put into effect.

MARKETING OFFICERS—WORK OF

52. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the number of Marketing officers or Marketing Inspectors employed in the State service;

(*b*) what is the nature of work these officers do at present;

(*c*) when were these posts created; the grade of pay of these officers;

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(*d*) whether the Government have taken any steps during the last 5 years to provide more marketing facilities for the agricultural produce of Cochin?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development)*:

(*a*) One.

(*b*) Inspection of grading of groundnut oil and Vanaspati done at the Tata Oil Mills Co. Ltd., Ernakulam.

(*c*) There was no new post created. The Agricultural Inspector, Cochin-Kanayannur Taluk, was asked to do this work in addition to his duties as Agricultural Inspector. The Agricultural Inspector's grade of pay is Rs. 80—100.

(*d*) Yes. Marketing surveys on a number of commodities were conducted during the years 1110 to 1112. In commodities like bananas, pine apples and eggs in which there are exportable surpluses, certain concessions in railway freight to the big consuming centres outside the State were secured which resulted in a considerable expansion in exports.

TALAPPALLI AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SOCIETY— PARTICULARS REGARDING

53. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli)*: Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) when was the Talappalli Agricultural Marketing Society started;

(*b*) does this institution exist at present;

(*c*) the amounts given by Government to this institution from time to time as grant, donation, loan, pay of officers, etc.;

(*d*) whether any amount is due from this institution at present?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development)*:

(*a*) 5th Chingam 1112.

(*b*) No. It is under liquidation.

(*c*) 1. Grant Nil.
2. Donation Nil.
3. Loan of Rs. 5,000 and subsidy of Rs. 500.
4. Pay of the Secretary on Rs. 15—20 (Rs. 756-8-0.)

(*d*) Yes. (Rs. 931-8-0).

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